



Introducing the Synthesis of Arctic Research (SOAR)

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OVERVIEW

- **WHAT:** *inter-disciplinary synthesis of marine science data and observations for the Pacific Arctic Region (PAR)*
- **WHERE:** *focus is US waters of the PAR, but integration of information from Canadian and Russian studies is encouraged*
- **WHY:** *lots of marine research in PAR, but little integration and synthesis*
- **WHEN:** *5-year project (2011-2016), in 2 Phases (Phase 1 = 2011-13)*
- **WHO:** *guidance - 11 member Science Steering Committee + Pls*
***BOEM-funded Project** – Heather Crowley (COR)*
Project Coordinator - Lisa Guy
Project Management - NOAA/PMEL; NOAA/Fisheries S&T
Integration and Synthesis - multiple laboratories

[*http://www.arctic.noaa.gov/soar/*](http://www.arctic.noaa.gov/soar/)

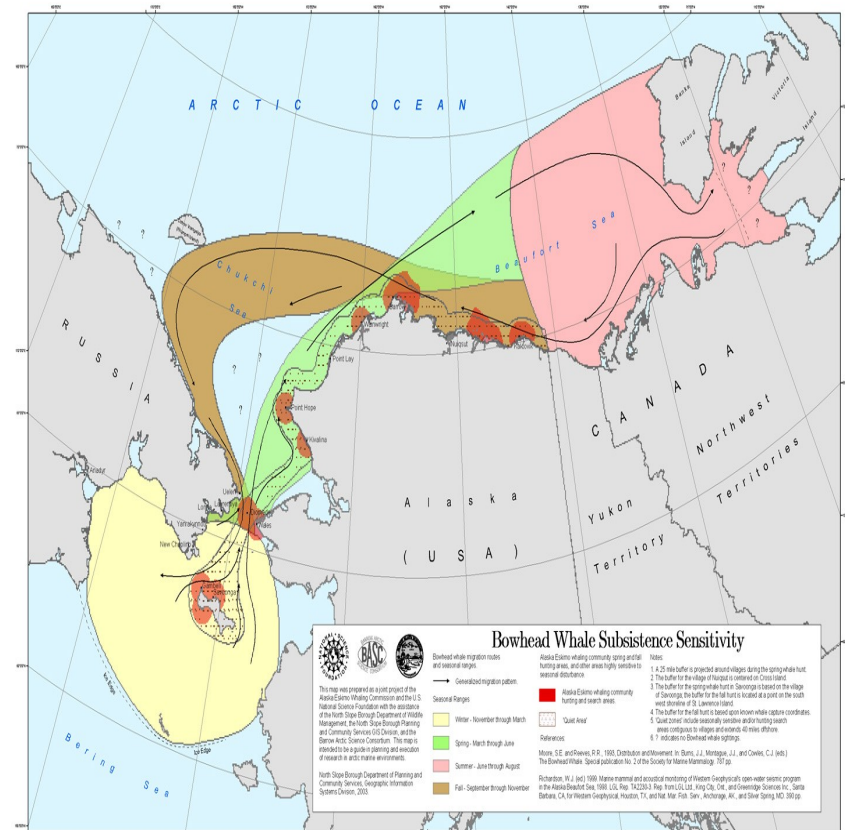
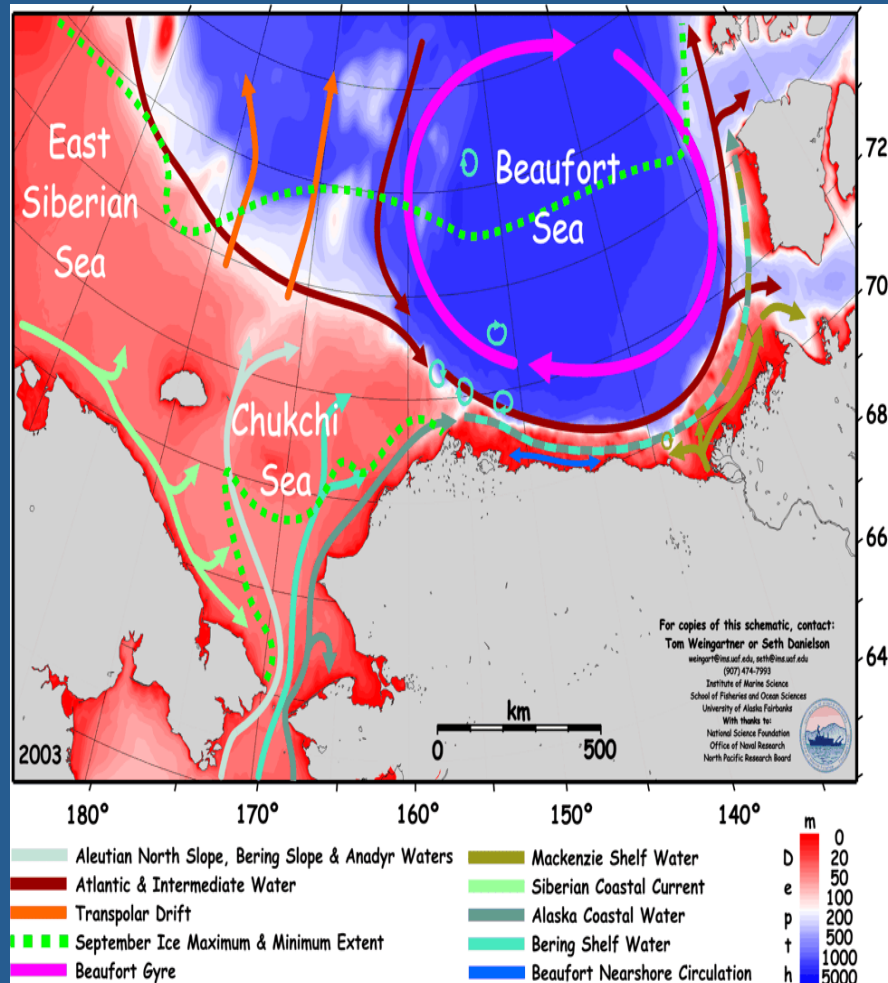
SCIENCE STEERING COMMITTEE

Project PIs: Moore & Stabeno

- **Robyn Angliss**
Deputy Director, NOAA National Marine Mammal Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center
- **Carin Ashjian**
Senior Scientist with Tenure, Biology Research, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- **Chris Clark**
Director, Bioacoustic Research, Cornell University
- **J. Craig George**
Senior Wildlife Biologist, Department of Wildlife Management, North Slope Borough
- **Jackie Grebmeier**
Research Professor, U.of Maryland Center for Env.Science; Arctic Ocean Sciences Board, Internat'l Arctic Science Committee
- **Taqulik Hepa**
Director, Dept of Wildlife Management, North Slope Borough
- **Chad Jay**
Research Ecologist, Alaska Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey
- **Vera Metcalf**
Executive Director, Eskimo Walrus Commission, Native Representative, Marine Mammal Commission
- **Tim Ragen**
Executive Director, Marine Mammal Commission
- **Robert Suydam**
Senior Wildlife Biologist, Department of Wildlife Management, North Slope Borough
- **Tom Weingartner**
Professor, Physical Oceanography, School of Fisheries & Ocean Sciences, Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks

Pacific Arctic Region (PAR)

N. Bering, Chukchi, Beaufort Seas



SYNTHESIS of Science: from Physics & Chemistry to Biology & Local Communities

SOAR PROJECT TIMELINE

*** YOU ARE HERE***

- 2011 Establish and convene Science Steering Committee
- 2012** Conduct SOAR Science Workshop: ***14-16 March 2012***
 - Refine synthesis themes & questions
 - Form Analytical Teams based on themes & questions
 - Identify required data, analysis, and modeling for each theme
 - Analytical Teams submit theme-based proposals
- 2013 Follow-on theme-based meetings and/or integrative workshops
 - Annual meeting; Present and communicate science products
- 2014 Annual meeting; Present and communicate science products
 - Augment Analytical Team funding
- 2015 Annual meeting; Present and communicate science products
- 2016 Peer-reviewed special issue of SOAR findings in scientific journal

2012-13: Key Milestones

Science Workshop

Synthesis Themes
Analytical Teams (AT)

Integration & Analysis

AT Proposals = \$\$
Quarterly Updates

Science Products

Peer-review Papers
Science Presentations
Education Outreach

THREE SCIENCE THEMES

Result of 1st SSC meeting, November 2011

1. Ecosystem Response to Bottom-up and/or Top-down Forcing: 9 sample questions
2. Marine Birds, Mammals, and Fish as Ecosystem Sentinels: 5 sample questions
3. Acoustic Ecology: 5 sample questions

Science Themes & Questions are
Open For Discussion & Input [HERE](#)



HOW WORKSHOP WILL 'WORK'

Day 1

- Introduction
- Disciplinary Overview & Break-out Session

Day 2

- Form Interdisciplinary Analytical Teams (AT)
- Refine/add Science Questions & Identify Data/Observations*
- Initiate Draft Proposals in AT Break-out Sessions

Day 3

- Present & Discuss Proposed Projects
- Open Session

*You do NOT have to be here to PLAY; data & observations from colleagues not at the workshop are welcome!

Post-Workshop Timeline

- **9 April:** SOAR SSC Members work with AT Leads to complete & submit proposals
- **30 April:** SOAR PI + SSC review proposals and agree on project awards
- **31 May:** Project awards delivered (target date)
- **1 June:** Synthesis Work initiated; Draft manuscripts anticipated within ~ 1 year

SOAR = Opportunity

- Opportunity to **THINK** about what can be learned about the marine ecosystem by *synthesis* of information X-Disciplines
- Support for **ANALYSIS & PUBLICATION**
- Opportunity for follow-up on **QUESTIONS** that arise during Phase I
- Opportunity to improve **UNDERSTANDING** of the marine ecosystem in support of future science, community support and resource management